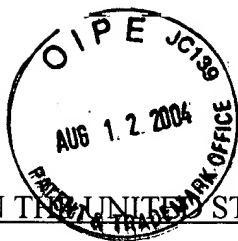


PATENT



Navy Case No. 96,596
Application No. 09/788,475

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Mohler, Jerre Wayne

Serial No. 09/788,475

Filed: February 21, 2001

For: DETECTING DEVICE FOR
FLUORESCENT-LABELED MATERIAL

Group Art Unit: 2878

Examiner: Timothy J. Moran

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

In response to the Official Action dated November 3, 2003, the applicant hereby requests reconsideration and allowance of the application in view of the following.

Claims 1 and 2 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Claims 1-2 and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Coates (U.S. 4,884,890). Claim 6 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Metz (U.S. 5,166,813). Claim 7 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Coates or Metz in further view of Chu (U.S. 5,440,927).

Claims 8-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Coates or Metz in further view of Eckstrom (U.S. 5,324,940). Finally, claims 3-5 are allowable and claim 10 stands objected to as dependent upon a rejected claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent format.